

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 108

Introduced by Wightman, 36.

WHEREAS, Charles E. Bessey was a nationally-known University of Nebraska professor of botany and horticulture from 1884 to 1915, and he served as acting chancellor from 1888 to 1891 and again in 1899; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey established one of the leading botany programs in the country, developed modern plant classification, promoted public education and environmental stewardship, and was president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey's motto, "Science with Practice," reflected his guiding philosophy that scientific discovery is most useful when put into practice; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey was instrumental in establishing agricultural experiment stations in Nebraska and on the national level as a way to take academic research to the public; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey was instrumental in creating the only manmade forests in the nation, the Nebraska National Forest near Halsey and the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest near Valentine; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey vigorously opposed efforts to

create two separate state universities in Nebraska, laying the foundation for a single, unified state university; and

WHEREAS, Professor Bessey's induction as the twenty-fourth inductee into the Nebraska Hall of Fame is well-justified recognition of his lasting impact on the State of Nebraska and the University of Nebraska through his notable achievements and his conviction that the university's mission was to benefit the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature posthumously honors Charles E. Bessey for his induction into the Nebraska Hall of Fame.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of Charles E. Bessey and to the University of Nebraska.